

# Independent Order of Foresters



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ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

# The Independent Order of Foresters.

*Membership Feb. 1st, 1895,*

71,904.



\$1,258,811.44.

*RESERVE FUND,  
1st March, 1895,*

The Best Fraternal Benefit Society  
in the World.

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THE 21ST YEAR OF ITS EXISTENCE.

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OVER TWO MILLIONS AND A HALF  
DOLLARS PAID IN BENEFITS.

# A Brief History of the F. O. F.

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**T**HIS Fraternal Benefit Order was founded in Newark, New Jersey, on the 17th June, 1874, and extends all over the northern portion of the United States and Canada, and is now rapidly spreading throughout Great Britain and Ireland. The system of government adopted by the Order is not only thoroughly democratic but simple in the extreme. The government is vested in a Supreme, and in the High and Subordinate Courts scattered throughout its jurisdiction.

**The Supreme Court** is not only the legislative but it is also the Supreme governing body of the Order, and is the final court of appeal in all cases. It is composed of its officers, who are elected or appointed at each regular biennial session thereof, and the representatives elected by the High Courts in the various States and Provinces of the United States and Canada, and in the British Isles. Seven of the chief officers of the Supreme Court form the **Executive Council**, who in the *interim* of the Sessions of the Supreme Court, manage the affairs of the Order in accordance with the provisions of its Constitutions and Laws.

**The High Courts**, which correspond to Grand Lodges of other societies, have control of the Order in each Country, Province or State, and are composed of its officers who are elected annually or biennially as the case may be, and the representatives elected by the Subordinate Courts within their respective territorial jurisdictions. At the present time there are five High Courts in the British Isles ; seven in the Dominion of Canada, and thirteen in the United States, extending from Maine to California.

**The Subordinate Courts** are located in any healthy locality where a sufficient number of good men are found, willing to join hands for the mutual protection of themselves and families, and apply for a Charter for a Court. These Subordinate Courts are controlled and managed by the members thereof. They are excellent educational centres for the instruction and the training of the members in the conduct of public business and in habits of thrift and self-reliance. From them, representatives are sent to the various High Courts, which elect, as already stated, the brethren who constitute the Supreme Court. It is, therefore, pre-eminently an Order of the people, by the people, for the people.

## Benefits Given by the F.O.F.

In addition to the **Social and Fraternal Benefits** which a Forester enjoys by virtue of his membership in this great Fraternal Order, he secures the following substantial benefits :

### For Himself.

- 1.—Free medical attendance Benefit in the person of the Court Physician, within whose jurisdiction the Brother is taken ill. Some Courts, in addition, furnish medicine free, as well as trained nurses, if thought necessary by the Court.
- 2.—Sick Benefits of from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per week.
- 3.—Total and Permanent Disability Benefit of \$250, \$500, \$1,000 or \$1,500.
- 4.—An Old Age Benefit of \$50, \$100, \$200 or \$300 a year.
- 5.—A Benefit payable on reaching his Expectation of Life of \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000 or \$3,000.

### For His Beneficiaries.

- 6.—A Funeral Benefit of \$50.
- 7.—A Mortuary Benefit of \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000 or \$3,000.

### When Benefits Commence.

Members of the I.O.F. are under the protection of the Order and come under full benefits (*a*) as soon as they have passed the Medical Board, (*b*) have paid their initiation and other required fees, and (*c*) are initiated into the Order.

In most of the other societies, members are not entitled to full benefits until six months after initiation.

### Membership Non-Forfeitable.

Once admitted, you cannot forfeit your membership, except by your own act of non-payment or other breach of the Constitutions and Laws. If your Court becomes defunct, or you remove to a place where there are no Courts, you can become a *member at large* and make your payments direct to the Supreme Court, and thus continue your membership. Payments by any member may be made monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or yearly in advance, at the option of each member.

To secure the benefits set forth in Nos. 3, 4 and 7, each member pays a small rate at age of entry, as laid down in the schedule on page 4. These rates may be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually, at the convenience of the member, and they do not increase as the member grows older, but remain the same so long as he is continuously in good standing in the Order.

# Schedule of Rates of the F.O.F.

## For the Ordinary or Preferred Class.

The following are the monthly rates for the Ordinary or Preferred Class, beginning at 18 years of age, which is the minimum age for admission. The maximum age for admission to the Order is 54 years, but the rates for ages 50 to 54, both inclusive, being a special rate, are shown on page 7.

AGE.	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	AGE.	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
18	\$0 30	\$0 60	\$1 20	\$1 80	34	\$0 38	\$0 76	\$1 52	\$2 28
19	31	61	1 22	1 83	35	39	78	1 56	2 34
20	31	62	1 24	1 86	36	40	80	1 60	2 40
21	32	63	1 26	1 89	37	41	82	1 64	2 46
22	32	64	1 28	1 92	38	42	84	1 68	2 52
23	33	65	1 30	1 95	39	43	86	1 72	2 58
24	33	66	1 32	1 98	40	44	88	1 76	2 64
25	34	67	1 34	2 01	41	45	90	1 80	2 70
26	34	68	1 36	2 04	42	46	92	1 84	2 76
27	35	69	1 38	2 07	43	48	95	1 90	2 85
28	35	70	1 40	2 10	44	49	98	1 96	2 94
29	36	71	1 42	2 13	45	51	1 02	2 04	3 06
30	36	72	1 44	2 16	46	54	1 07	2 14	3 21
31	37	73	1 46	2 19	47	57	1 14	2 28	3 42
32	37	74	1 48	2 22	48	61	1 22	2 44	3 66
33	38	75	1 50	2 25	49	68	1 35	2 70	4 05

Besides the above charges for the Mortuary Benefit, each member is called upon to contribute to the General Fund of the Supreme Court a capitation tax of 50 cents per year, the High Court dues of 50 cents, and the dues of his own Subordinate Court, which average about \$3.00 per year. The medical attendance benefit and the ordinary running expenses of the Court are paid out of the Court dues.

By the I. O. F. system, the young men are not called upon to pay in addition their own fees a portion of the fees of the older men in the Order, as is practically done in all societies which charge their members a uniform rate of assessments irrespective of the age of the members. Each member of the I. O. F. is charged an equitable rate according to his age at joining, and which does not change so long as he remains continuously in the Order, and does not change his occupation.

# Schedule of Rates in the F.O.F.

## For the Hazardous Class.

**238** (1) The Hazardous Class shall consist of all those who are engaged in, or follow, any of the undermentioned occupations or callings, viz. : Officers and crew and other employes of ocean or inland steamers, railway trainmen and other employes on passenger trains, engineers and firemen of freight trains, yardmasters, stonecutters, members of fire brigades in cities or in large towns, shovelers in elevators, grinders of edged tools, pilots, quarry men, master miners who go only occasionally underground, raftsmen, oyster dredgers, slaters, telegraph, telephone and electric light linemen.

(2) Also all persons who are deaf, or who have lost one leg, or one arm, or one eye, or who have a defective arm or leg.

Those in this class pay the following rates :

AGE.	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	AGE.	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
18 \$0 35 \$0 70 \$1 40 \$2 10					34 \$0 46 \$0 92 \$1 84 \$2 76				
19 36 71 1 42 2 13					35 47 94 1 88 2 82				
20 36 72 1 44 2 16					36 48 96 1 92 2 88				
21 37 73 1 46 2 19					37 49 98 1 96 2 94				
22 37 74 1 48 2 22					38 50 1 00 2 00 3 00				
23 38 75 1 50 2 25					39 51 1 02 2 04 3 06				
24 38 76 1 52 2 28					40 52 1 04 2 08 3 12				
25 39 77 1 54 2 31					41 54 1 07 2 14 3 21				
26 39 78 1 56 2 34					42 55 1 10 2 20 3 30				
27 40 79 1 58 2 37					43 57 1 13 2 26 3 39				
28 40 80 1 60 2 40					44 58 1 16 2 32 3 48				
29 41 82 1 64 2 46					45 60 1 20 2 40 3 60				
30 42 84 1 68 2 52					46 63 1 25 2 50 3 75				
31 43 86 1 72 2 58					47 65 1 30 2 60 3 90				
32 44 88 1 76 2 64					48 70 1 40 2 80 4 20				
33 45 90 1 80 2 70					49 78 1 55 3 10 4 65				

## Why is the I.O.F. so Popular ?

BECAUSE members are under the protection of the Order, and are under full benefits so soon as they are properly initiated into the I.O.F.

BECAUSE members are not assessed for death claims, and the amount of the monthly payments do not depend on the number of deaths in the Order.

BECAUSE each member pays a stated sum according to his age and class at entry, so every Forester can calculate the exact cost of his benefits from month to month and from year to year.



# Schedule of Rates of the J. O. F.

## For the Extra Hazardous Class.

**239** (1) The Extra Hazardous Class shall consist of all officers and crew and other employes on sailing vessels; all engaged in blasting, surface-mining, divers, glass-blowers, manufacturers of fireworks, brakemen and conductors of freight trains, switchmen, buzz, band, circular and gang sawyers.

Those in this class pay the following rates :

AGE.	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	AGE.	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
18	40	80	1 60	2 40	34	58	1 15	2 30	3 45
19	41	81	1 62	2 43	35	60	1 20	2 40	3 60
20	41	82	1 64	2 46	36	63	1 25	2 50	3 75
21	42	83	1 66	2 49	37	65	1 30	2 60	3 90
22	42	84	1 68	2 52	38	68	1 35	2 70	4 05
23	43	85	1 70	2 55	39	70	1 40	2 80	4 20
24	43	86	1 72	2 58	40	73	1 45	2 90	4 35
25	44	87	1 74	2 61	41	75	1 50	3 00	4 50
26	44	88	1 76	2 64	42	78	1 55	3 10	4 65
27	45	89	1 78	2 67	43	80	1 60	3 20	4 80
28	45	90	1 80	2 70	44	83	1 65	3 30	4 95
29	47	94	1 88	2 82	45	85	1 70	3 40	5 10
30	49	98	1 96	2 94	46	90	1 80	3 60	5 40
31	51	1 02	2 04	3 06	47	95	1 90	3 80	5 70
32	53	1 06	2 12	3 18	48	1 00	2 00	4 00	6 00
33	55	1 10	2 20	3 30	49	1 10	2 20	4 40	6 60

## Disqualification for Membership.

**124.** (1) All underground coal miners, lead and copper miners, employes in and around powder mills, all engaged in manufacturing dynamite or other dangerous explosives, and all persons whose occupation may, from time to time, be scheduled by the Supreme Court or by the Executive Council as "Specially Dangerous," shall not be eligible for admission as Beneficiary members: and if a Beneficiary member should change his occupation to any of those named in this sub-section, he shall *ipso facto* forfeit his standing as a Beneficiary member, and shall, thereafter, so long as he continues in such proscribed occupation, enjoy the rights only of "Special Members."

No person engaged in the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors is eligible for membership in the I. O. F.



# The F. O. F. System is the fairest.

An examination of the preceding schedule of rates for the Ordinary or Preferred Class, will disclose the fact that from 18 to 49 years of age, both inclusive, the ratios of the rates are based on the "Combined Experience" (17 offices) Table, as shown in the following table :

AGE.	"Combined Experience" Table.	I.O.F. Table of Rates.	AGE.	"Combined Experience" Table.	I.O.F. Table of Rates.	AGE.	"Combined Experience" Table.	I.O.F. Table of Rates.
18	\$7 13	\$7 20	29	\$8 27	\$8 52	40	\$10 36	\$10 56
19	7 21	7 32	30	8 42	8 64	41	10 61	10 80
20	7 29	7 44	31	8 58	8 76	42	10 89	11 04
21	7 38	7 56	32	8 75	8 88	43	11 25	11 40
22	7 46	7 68	33	8 92	9 00	44	11 70	11 76
23	7 56	7 80	34	9 09	9 12	45	12 21	12 24
24	7 67	7 92	35	9 29	9 36	46	12 84	12 84
25	7 77	8 04	36	9 48	9 60	47	13 52	13 68
26	7 89	8 16	37	9 69	9 84	48	14 26	14 64
27	8 01	8 28	38	9 91	10 08	49	15 06	16 20
28	8 14	8 40	39	10 13	10 32			

## Special Schedule of Rates.

Any applicant in the Ordinary Class or in the Hazardous Class who is admitted to the Order, or any member who may be reinstated on or after his *fiftieth* birthday, shall pay according to his age at date of enrolment or reinstatement, as per following schedules :—

### (2) Rates for the Ordinary Class.

AGE.	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
50	\$1 25	\$2 50	\$5 00	\$7 50
51	1 30	2 60	5 20	7 80
52	1 35	2 70	5 40	8 10
53	1 43	2 85	5 70	8 55
54	1 50	3 00	6 00	9 00

### (3) Rates for the Hazardous Class.

AGE.	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
50	\$1 30	\$2 60	\$5 20	\$7 80
51	1 38	2 75	5 50	8 25
52	1 48	2 95	5 90	8 85
53	1 60	3 20	6 40	9 60
54	1 75	3 50	7 00	10 50

# Cost of Joining the F. O. F.

## Fees Payable by Charter Members.

- 1.—The Charter Fee of \$100 00  
*[If there be 20 Charter applicants each would pay towards the Charter \$5.00. If there be 40 applicants each would pay \$2.50, and if there be 100 applicants each would pay only \$1.00 towards the Charter fee.]*
- 2.—The Registration Fee, which is 50 cents for each \$500 of Mortuary Benefit taken (say) 1 00
- 3.—The Certificate Fee, which pays for the Policy and a beautiful Certificate of membership 1 00
- 4.—The Medical Examination Fee (say) 1 50  
*[The Medical Examination Fee is \$1.50 for \$500 or \$1,000 of Mortuary Benefit, and \$2.00 for \$2,000 or \$3,000.]*

## Repayment to Charter Members.

Each Charter member is entitled to be repaid by his Subordinate Court the amount contributed by him towards the payment of the Charter Fee, such repayment is made out of the first initiation fees received by the Subordinate Court after its Charter is closed.

## Fees Payable on Joining an Existing Court.

A Candidate for initiation into an existing Court, and taking \$1,000 of Mortuary Benefits, must pay the following fees:

- 1.—The Deposit Fee, which must accompany his application for membership, \$1 00
  - 2.—The Initiation Fee, which must be at least 3 00
  - 3.—The Registration Fee, which is 50 cents for each \$500 of Mortuary Benefit taken, (say) 1 00
  - 4.—The Certificate Fee, which pays for the Policy and a beautiful Certificate of membership, 1 00
  - 5.—The Medical Examination Fee, which is as above, must also be paid for by the applicant, (say) 1 50
- 
- \$7 50**

A candidate taking \$2,000 of Mortuary Benefits would be required to pay \$1.00 extra Registration Fee, and 50 cents extra for Medical Examination Fee, thus making his total Initiation Fees \$9 00

While a candidate taking \$3,000 of Mortuary Benefits would have to pay \$2.00 extra Registration Fee, thus making his total Initiation Fees \$10 00

# Solid Financial Basis of the I. O. F.

When the Order was changed in 1881 from a death Assessment Society and placed on its present basis, the rates in the schedules were adopted with the firm conviction that they would yield a sufficient revenue for all time to come to enable the Order to meet all legitimate claims. The I. O. F. began business on the new plan on the 1st July, 1881, without a dollar in its treasury. On the 1st of March, 1895, after having paid all claims and heavy management expenses, incurred chiefly in spreading the Order into new territory, there remained in our treasury a surplus of

**\$1,258,811.44.**

Thus, in our own experience, under the present system, extending over a period of fourteen years, being in the twenty-first year of our existence, we have demonstrated that our rates are more than sufficient to meet all claims.

What have we to rely upon that our rates will continue to be sufficient to meet the probable demands of beneficiaries for say the next 20 years. Our reply is, that the actual rate of mortality experienced by other Companies and Societies indicates approximately what our experience will be in the future. The following table shows the death rate per 1,000 in certain Companies and Societies :

## The Actual Experience of Companies and Societies.

TABLE NO. 1.

	Years Old.	Death Rate per 1,000.
Equitable of New York.....	33	12.23
Mutual Life.....	44	13.15
New York Life.....	42	10.43
Canada Life.....	45	9.82
Confederation Life.....	21	7.73
30 Old Line Active Companies doing business in America (for 1891).....		10.17
All Old Line Companies doing business in the State of New York.....		10.93
Ancient Order United Workmen (the whole Order).....	25	10.32
Manchester Unity Odd Fellows.....	77	12.60
Ancient Order Foresters (whole Order)...	146	11.72

# The Financial System of the I.O.F.

The opponents of the Independent Order of Foresters say that the Order does not charge enough for the Mortuary Benefits it sells to its members. Reference is made to the large premiums exacted by "Old Line Insurance Companies" as being as low as it is prudent to charge.

1.—Old Line Companies, as a rule, pay immense sums as dividends to the share or stockholders of the Company, while there are no such charges upon the income of the I.O.F.

2.—Old Line Companies, under certain conditions, pay "Surrender Values" for policies that are terminated, and "bonuses" are in some instances paid by them to their policy-holders. The money used to pay "bonuses" and "Surrender Values" is first taken from the policy-holders, and where there are no such payments, there can be a proportionate reduction of the premium rates without any impairment of the financial status of the Company or Society.

3.—The premiums of Old Line Companies are "loaded" or increased for purposes of "management expenses" by about 25 *per cent.*, while the I.O.F. takes only 5 *per cent.* of its premium income for management expenses.

It is self-evident that whatever sum is used by the Old Line Companies for the objects named in Nos. 1 and 2 above, added to whatever is the sum which represents the difference in the management expenses in the two systems, by that amount, at least, can the premiums of the I.O.F. be reduced below those of the Old Line Companies and still leave the I.O.F. as strong financially as its rivals. The basic principle of the I.O.F. is that its members shall be charged just

## THE ACTUAL COST OF ASSURANCE.

The rates of the I.O.F. have, so far, more than covered the cost of assurance, but if the rates laid down in the schedule on page 4 should ever prove to be insufficient to pay the cost of assurance, there is a provision in the Constitutions and Laws for calling as many extra assessments as may be required to meet promptly the claims of the Beneficiaries of the Order, thus placing the solvency of the Order for all time to come beyond question, while the members *can never be called upon to pay from month to month more than the actual cost of their assurances.*

Although we charge for assurances less than *one-half* the rates in the Old Line Companies, yet for the ten years ending 31st Dec., 1893, we had paid to our Beneficiaries only 59 *per cent.* of our premium income, and for the last year of the decade, viz., 1893, being the 20th year of our history, we paid to Beneficiaries only 55 *per cent.* of our income.

# Past Experience in Favor of F. O. F.

To still further confirm the facts of actual experience that the rates of the I.O.F. are likely to be sufficient so long as it is managed prudently and economically, as at present, the next table is given showing the experience of the Old Line Companies named therein during the last 10 years of their existence.

## 10 YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF AMERICAN OLD LINE COMPANIES.

*1884 to 1893 inclusive.*

	Years old.	Premium Income for 10 years.	Paid Beneficiaries in 10 years.	Percentage of Premium Income paid to Beneficiaries.
Equitable.....	35	\$240,349,071	\$78,129,608	32
Mutual.....	52	227,334,454	97,810,525	43
New York.....	53	206,603,035	70,278,205	34

## 10 YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF CANADIAN OLD LINE COMPANIES.

*1884 to 1893 inclusive.*

	Years old.	Premium Income for 10 years.	Paid Beneficiaries in 10 years.	Percentage of Premium Income paid to Beneficiaries.
Canada Life.....	47	\$13,339,209	\$5,004,876	37
Confederation....	23	5,645,728	1,465,696	26
North American..	13	2,517,865	544,768	22
Ontario Mutual..	24	3,638,526	850,097	23
Sun .....	23	5,608,810	1,308,233	23

If the Independent Order of Foresters has the same experience as the Companies and Societies named above and on page 9, then it becomes absolutely certain that its present rates will give enough to pay all claims and be yielding a surplus 50 or 100 years hence. We know of no reason ourselves, and we never have had any reasonable cause given, why we should not have as good as or even a better experience than the Companies or Societies referred to.

# Sufficiency of the Rates of the F.O.F.

One great "bugaboo" which the "Old Liners" are always using to frighten people from becoming Foresters is, that "when the hand of time is moved forward twenty years," and the membership has grown that much older, then the rate of mortality will be much higher and will continue getting larger and larger, until it will have grown so great that the membership will refuse to pay the rates that would be required to meet the claims. To make such an argument of any value, one must explain how it was that the Odd Fellows of Great Britain, when over 80 years old, and the Ancient Order of Foresters, when considerably over 100 years of age, had each a mortality rate *which could have been covered by the rates of the I.O.F.*

They must do more than that. They must show why, with its superior methods of selecting its membership, with its exclusion of the more hazardous lives, but which are admitted to the other two, the Independent Order of Foresters should not have a lower mortality rate than either of the above named great Societies.

They must do still more than this. They must establish that the average age of the policies of the I.O.F. must be nearer *30 years*, and not under *10 years*, as is shown to be the case of "the policies brought under observation in several of the more important mortality statistics," as exhibited in the following :

TABLE NO. 2.

No. of offices contributing.	Tables of Mortality.	Rates of Establishment.	Period to which the observations extend.	Average duration of the Assurances in years.	No. of policies or lives embraced in the observation.	
					Policies	Lives.
17	"Combined Experience" . . . .	1706 to 1834	1837	8.50	83,905	.....
20	"Institute of Actuaries" (H <sup>M</sup> )	1720 to 1845	1863	9.12	.....	146,847
10	Scotch Offices. . .	1815 to 1843	1863	8.54	115,254	94,749
1	"American Experience" . . . . .	1843	1873	5.64	.....	101,967

## Sufficiency of the Rates of the F.O.F.

They must also disprove the statement of W. D. Whiting, Actuary, and, at that time, Insurance Commissioner of Maine, made at the annual convention of Insurance Commissioners, held in Denver, Colorado, in 1889, to the effect that "THE AVERAGE EXPECTATION OF LIFE IS ABOUT THIRTY YEARS, WHEREAS THE AVERAGE DURATION OF POLICIES IS LESS THAN TEN YEARS."

Instead of meeting the issues squarely and showing from actual experience that the facts disclosed in Tables Nos. 1 and 2 do not modify the cost of insurance, whenever our rivals have attempted to criticise our Order they have always omitted to take any account of such important factors as "the effects of medical selection," "lapses," and the "infusion of new blood," all of which serve to modify and reduce the cost of assurance below the figures given in the mortality tables of Actuaries.

The reason for this course is obvious, for the moment they took them into consideration they would be compelled to admit that the rates of the I.O.F. were sufficient to meet the claims of its members and their beneficiaries for all time to come by reason of the rejuvenation of the Order, if I may be allowed the term, which is taking place month by month, by the lapsing of old members, and the infusion of new and young blood, thereby keeping down the average age of the membership.

With the statement of W. D. Whiting before us, and with the knowledge that the universal experience of live and active companies and societies are like those shown in Tables Nos. 1 and 2, is it not the veriest begging of the question to quote against the system of the I. O. F. the figures of the standard mortality tables, which have been constructed on the assumption that there will be no lapses, but that each policy will be kept alive till it matures by death or otherwise.

Our opponents tell us that the mortality tables represent the inexorable laws of death, from which there can be no escape. Under certain conditions this is true. But, as already explained, the I.O.F. has existed and flourished for 20 years, its mortality rate has been of late going down instead of rising higher and higher year by year, as required by the "inexorable laws of death." For instance, in its 18th year the mortality rate was 6.40, in its 19th year 6.25, in its 20th 5.47, and in its 21st year it had fallen to 5.39 per 1,000. The conditions which produced these results are well known to actuaries, and will always be present with the I.O.F.



# The Funds of the Order.

Every safeguard has been thrown around the funds of the Order. In the first place, the Subordinate Courts collect the monthly premiums from the individual members and send them direct to the Supreme Secretary. The Subordinate Courts are authorized to send these remittances only by Bank Draft, Post Office or Express Money Orders. Each to be made payable to the Order of the Bank selected by the Executive Council.

After the funds are in the Bank, they are subject only to the joint cheques of the Supreme Chief Ranger, Supreme Secretary and Supreme Treasurer. Only a sufficient amount is kept in the Bank of deposit to enable the Executive to meet all claims promptly as they accrue, the balance of the funds are permanently invested, and made subject only to the joint orders of the whole Executive Council.

## Surplus Funds.

At the last report there was in the Surplus Fund the following amounts :

Post Office Savings Bank	-	-	-	\$	14,281	81
British Canadian Loan & Investment Co.					10,000	00
Agricultural Savings and Loan Co.	-				10,000	00
Loans to High Courts	-	-	-	-	7,425	00
New Brunswick	-	-	-	-	20,000	00
Great Britain	-	-	-	-	97,333	33
Mortgages	-	-	-	-	754,401	60
Debentures	-	-	-	-	141,299	82
					<hr/>	
Total Permanent Reserve	-	-		\$	1,054,741	56
Surplus Funds	-	-	-	-	102,323	81
					<hr/>	
Surplus Mortuary Benefit Fund	-			\$	1,157,065	37
Surplus Sick and Funeral	-	-	-	-	59,809	65
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Grand Total Surplus	-	-	-	\$	1,216,875	02

The books and accounts are audited every two months by auditors elected by the Supreme Court. Every year the books and vouchers of the Supreme Court are thoroughly examined by experts sent by the Insurance Commissioners of States wherein business is done by the Order. The last of such independent examinations took place in September, 1894.

The outcome of each and every examination is well expressed by William M. Root, Insurance Commissioner of Wisconsin, in the letter which appears on the last page of cover.

# Sick and Funeral Benefits of the F.O.F.

**422.** (1) Every Beneficiary member residing in a Province, State or Country where the laws of the land permit Fraternal Benefit Societies to give such benefits, who has passed the Medical Board within *thirty days*, may become enrolled for the Sick and Funeral Benefits, which are at the rate of *three dollars* per week for the first *two weeks*, and *five dollars* per week thereafter for a further period of *ten weeks*, making *twelve weeks* of any one illness as hereinafter provided, and *fifty dollars* on death, toward funeral expenses.

(5) Whenever, and so long as the Surplus Funds in the Sick and Funeral Benefit Department shall exceed the sum of *twenty-five thousand* dollars, and upon the recommendation of the Supreme Physician, the Executive Council may, in its discretion, grant to a deserving brother, suffering from a protracted illness, an extra benefit of *three dollars* per week for any period not exceeding *twelve* additional weeks.

On the death of a brother the Funeral Benefit of \$50 is paid to the Beneficiaries.

The Sick and Funeral Benefits are optional. Those wishing to join that Department pay an enrolment fee of *one dollar* and thereafter pay according to the following :

## Schedule of Monthly Rates.

Age.	Monthly Rate of Assessment.	Age.	Monthly Rate of Assessment.	Age.	Monthly Rate of Assessment.
18	40 cts.	31	47 cts.	44	60 cts.
19	41	32	47	45	62
20	41	33	48	46	64
21	42	34	48	47	66
22	42	35	49	48	68
23	43	36	50	49	70
24	43	37	51	50	75
25	44	38	52	51	80
26	44	39	53	52	85
27	45	40	54	53	90
28	45	41	55	54	95
29	46	42	56	55 and	
30	46	43	58	upwards	\$1 00

# Phenomenal Growth of the F.O.F.

The I.O.F., from its organization in 1874 to the year 1881, was, like all the older Societies, a Mortuary Assessment Organization. In 1881 the present leaders came into power, who changed its Constitutions and Laws and placed the Order on its present foundation. From that time it has enjoyed a continuous and a constantly increasing prosperity.

The following tabulated figures will show the marvellous growth of the Order since its re-organization :

MONTH.	YEAR.	NO. OF MEMBERS.	BALANCE IN BANK.
January,	1882.....	1,019	\$ 3,555 47
"	1883 .....	1,134	2,769 58
"	1884 .....	2,216	13,070 85
"	1885 .....	2,558	20,992 30
"	1886 .....	3,648	31,082 52
"	1887 .....	5,804	60,325 02
"	1888 .....	7,811	86,102 42
"	1889 .....	11,618	117,599 88
"	1890 .....	17,026	188,130 86
"	1891 .....	24,466	283,967 20
"	1892 .....	32,303	408,798 18
"	1893 .....	43,024	580,597 85
"	1894 .....	54,484	858,857 89
"	1895 .....	70,055	1,187,225 11
February	1895 .....	71,904	1,216,875 02
March	1895.....about	72,500	1,258,811 44

The cause of this unexampled prosperity and growth of the I.O.F. is due to the fact that its foundations have been laid on a **Solid Financial Basis**, and every department of the Order has been managed on business principles, thereby securing for all Foresters large and varied benefits at the lowest possible cost consistent with **Safety** and **Permanence**.

Though the I.O.F. has already paid over two millions and a half dollars in benefits, as well as a large sum for management expenses, yet it will be noted that the accumulated funds of the Order stood, on the 1st March, at over **One Million Two Hundred and Fifty-Eight Thousand Dollars**.

Another remarkable circumstance is that the death rate of the Order for 1894, being the *twenty-first* year of its history, was only 5.39 per 1,000, showing the great excellence of the I.O.F. system of medical selections.

## Advantages of a Membership in the F.O.F.

1. The cost of the Mortuary or Assurance Benefit is about one-half of the amount charged by the "Old Line" Insurance Companies.

2. As there is already over a million dollars on hand which is being increased monthly, cheques for the widows and orphans of deceased brethren are issued immediately a claim has been properly established.

3. The payments to the F. O. F. do not fluctuate with the number of deaths which take place in the Order each month. Every brother can tell how much his membership will cost him from month to month and from year to year.

4. Although the Constitutions and Laws of the Order allow the Executive Council 30 days' grace in which to pay benefits, the cheques for the same are issued *immediately* after the proper papers are filed with the Supreme Secretary, so that even with our most distant jurisdictions Benefits are paid, as a rule, *within two weeks*.

5. All policies are payable in full at death, but if a brother attains the age of 70 years he not only ceases paying any more assessments, but *one tenth* of the Mortuary Benefit is *then paid to himself* and at each subsequent birthday he is entitled to be paid *on anniversary tenth* until the whole Benefit is paid to the brother himself.

6. All taxation also ceases immediately upon the Total and Permanent Disability of a Forester from either accident or disease; and one half the amount of the Mortuary Benefit is paid to the member himself at the end of six months if the said disability continues, the other half being payable at death to the widow and orphans or other beneficiaries of the Brother.

7. Membership in the Order is not dependent upon the continued existence of the Subordinate Court of which you may be a member. If, unfortunately, it should forfeit its Charter, there is a provision by which members thereof, so desirous of it, can be continued in "good standing" in the Order by paying direct to the Home Office. Once a Forester always a Forester is the general rule. If a member becomes suspended through non-payment of dues, etc., by being re-assessed and paying up arrears, or by being re-fined at present age, he can re-instate himself at any time.

